(b) whether people or institutions have not been able to take advantage of Central Governments matching grants for construction of stadium and sports facilities;

(c) if so, how does Government propose to relax the present conditions; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. In fact 63 projects sponsord by non governmental organisations have been sanctioned grants during the last three financial years.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Sports Scholarships in Universities and Schools

2918. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the number of sports scholarships in Universities and schools;

(b) whether there is any such proposal under consideration; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK:) (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Shortage of Swimming Pools in the country

2919. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of Olympic standard swimming pools in the country;

(b) how does Government propose to encourage acquatic sports;

(c) what are the steps Government propose to encourage construction more swimming pools;

(d) whether liberal finances will be made available to State Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): (a) Yes, Sir, However, Olympic standard swimming pools are mainly required for competition and training needs can be met by swimming pools of smaller sizes also.

(b) To encourage aquatic sports, Government is giving financial assistance to concerned National Federations namely Swimming Federation of India, Yachting Association of India, Rowing Federation of India, and Indian Kayaking & Canoeing Association.

Sports Authority of India identifies talented sports persons and trains them in 11 schools adopted for swimming discipline under National Sports Talent Contest Scheme, 4 Army Boys Sports Companies and 3 Sports Hostels. In addition to this, Sports Authority of India has Water Sports Centres at Alleppey and Port Blair, where selected sportspersons are giving training in different water sports. Scholarships are also given to sportspersons who achieve excellence in National level schools games competitions, All India-Inter-University Competitions and State/National level competitions.